D-7499

CONSULAAT-GENERAAL DER NEDERLANDEN
VOOR MIDDEN-CHINA.
TEL. AD. HOLLANDIA.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
S. B. D. 7499
24 8 36

No. 2974.

SHANGHAI. 22nd August 1936.

Sir,

I still have to thank you for the report of the Special Branch, S.2, dated August 13, 1936, concerning Mrs. Sophie de Vries.

The latter called at my office on August 21, 1936, and registered with this Consulate General. She is indeed in possession of a passport, issued at Soerabaia on July 27, 1934, under No. 906, extended at Brussels for a period of two years ending June 22, 1937.

She stated that during the last seven years of her stay in Soerabaia she had been employed as a steno-typist with the American Consulate, the Gulf Petroleum Co. and Messrs. Fraser & Eaton, but that owing to her age she found it difficult to obtain further employment in this line and therefore proceeded to Paris to study hairdressing and beauty-culture.

It is quite true too that she shows a certain reluctance to speak about her former marriage.

There was nothing to show that she was interested in politics or conditions in China.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Chinese Secretary.

S.2.
Note & pass to Reg for file.
D.R.
T.B. 24/8

T. Robertson, Esquire,
Officer in charge of Special Branch,
Shanghai Municipal Police,
SHANGHAI.

CENTRAL CORRESPONDENCE
24 AUG. 1936
CHINESE BRANCH

FM. 2.
G. 40M-9-35

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Special Branch

REPORT

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
FILE NO. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 7499
Date 16th August 36

Subject: Mrs. Sophie de Vries, Netherlander.

Made by: D.S. Pitts. Forwarded by: J. Coyne D.S.I.

Mrs. Sophie de VRIES, aged 48, a Netherlands subject, arrived in Shanghai from Singapore on May 23, 1936 as a passenger on board the Lloyd Triestino's m.v. "Victoria." She stayed for one night (May 23) at the Broadway Mansions, after which she removed to Room 15, Avenue Hall, 1400 Avenue Road, where she is still residing.

Until about 2½ years ago, Mrs. de Vries was unhappily married to a Netherlander named de KLOSTER, who held a very prominent position in Soerabaya, Netherlands East Indies. Due to de Kloster's infidelity and general unhappiness, Mrs. de Kloster, as she was then known, secured a divorce from her husband in the Netherlands East Indies and resumed her maiden name of de Vries, but preferred to be known as Mrs. and not Miss de Vries.

After obtaining her divorce, Mrs. de Vries, who working as a stenographer in Java during her married life had saved a considerable amount of money, made her way to Europe and visited the Hague, Brussels and Paris in order to study hairdressing and beauty-culture. She remained in Europe for nearly two years and eventually obtained a diploma in Paris which states that she is an expert in the art of special make-up and hairdressing.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
14 AUG
CRIME BRANCH

She returned to the East in the Spring of this year and made a short stop at Singapore, whence she made a trip to Soerabaya to see various friends and acquaintances, after which she continued her journey to Shanghai.

She is doing fairly well in the ladies' hairdressing business at present, her clients visiting her at her home address. She manages to earn sufficient from this venture to live quite

FM. 2
G. 40M-9-35

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

.....Station,

REPORT

2

Date.....19

Subject.....

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

comfortably, and she is still in possession of a fair amount of money saved during her married life.

She has a number of friends in Shanghai, all being quite well-known and of a respectable character. In this connection it should be mentioned that Mrs. de Vries has passed several months in Shanghai on different occasions prior to her divorce.

As regards her daily life, it would appear that Mrs. de Vries is a thoroughly respectable lady, there being no indication that she is anything other than a woman who wants to forget her unhappy past, make a little money and live quietly. She neither smokes nor drinks and has no love affairs. She is also of a very religious frame of mind, attending the Christian Science Church, 1647 Avenue Road, very regularly. It can be said that she leads an almost featureless existence for she rarely ventures outside her home after dark, save perhaps to go to the theatre occasionally, and even ~~mk~~ when she does do this she is always accompanied by a lady acquaintance. In brief she leads a thoroughly quiet and retiring life.

Regarding that information received from a certain source to the effect that she is to be seen typing documents continually, I have to report that this statement is definitely untrue., for although Mrs. de Vries is in possession of a typewriter, she rarely uses it and is reliably said to be a very casual correspondent. Further her linguistic abilities though fair, are by no means up to the required standard demanded of anyone connected with regular correspondence or journalistic work.

FM. 2
G. 40M-9-35

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

.....Station,

REPORT
3

Date.....19

Subject.....

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

It is quite possible that the informant was aware of the fact that Mrs. de Vries was formerly Mrs. de Kloster, and was under the impression that there was something strange or even suspicious about her non-employment of her married name, but since Mrs. de Vries holds Netherlands passport No. 906 issued by the Netherlands Authorities in Soerabaya on July 27, 1934 in that name, any such suspicions would appear to be groundless.

J. Pires

D. S.

DBR. 14/8.

Deputy Commissioner (Crime and Special Branches.)

Copy to Mr. J.
DBR. 14/8.

FILE
DBR.